

"whom the heavens cannot contain." And like him so notably in this respect, that they were "filled with the Holy Ghost." Perhaps we do not know what this means. Perhaps we can not know, so far is the marvelous phenomenon removed from our experience, and from the experience of our times. The mystery which we are unable to comprehend lies in a reason, a miracle, which we cannot comprehend, and so it remains a mystery to us and to this modern world. Terms, words, phrases, do not enlighten us. They are but the draperies which hide our ignorance. "Filled with the Holy Ghost." There is all the mystery. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

Secretary's Report for May

The financial report of the secretary of the National Mission Board for the month of May is certainly a very encouraging one. The Lord is blessing the work. Let us not relax our efforts during the warm months, but keep up, and if possible increase the contributions to the Board.

Let in the Light

As the rivers hurry to the sea, so the days, and months, and years, and the generations, and our own souls, eagerly press on and on into the magnificent eternities. For God's eternity is not a world of gloom, but of glory. In our own souls is all the gloom there is. Let us open the windows to the glory. Let in the light, and the joy, and the truth, and the purity, and peace. Let in the waiting, loving CHRIST.

Preaching on the Streets

The Presbyterian ministers of Atlanta, Ga., have certainly made a new and interesting departure along the line of ministerial methods, especially for that body of Christians. They have determined to preach the Gospel on the streets, on Sunday afternoons, to such congregations as may be gathered. Several such meetings have been held, and with gratifying success. Large crowds listened to a young preacher with a big voice, and much oratorical ability, an equipment needed for outdoor preaching, and the results were interesting. They were for the most part people who never attend church, but after this particular meeting some of them have been seen at church, and some have been converted. It has long been a matter of comment that people who have never been in the habit of going to church are often more readily reached by the Gospel than the class of sinners who have become Gospel hardened. What is needed is for preachers to reach in some way the multitudes who are strangers to the Sabbath worship, who never enter the churches. If they will not come to us, we must go to them. Perhaps the mistake has been in a system which asked them to come to us, which built churches, hired preachers, emphasized the Gospel of form, and ceremony, comfortable pews, rhetorical sermonizers, and proceeded generally upon

the idea that for so much preparation in their behalf, the ungospelized heathen of the streets should be duly grateful, and willing to put themselves out in order to enjoy the charity. It is a great mistake. Apostolic preaching was ordered upon the opposite hypothesis that the Gospel must be carried to the people, that they must be sought out, and followed to their homes, and saved in the highways and hedges. Let the ministers of the Gospel follow the primitive plan, let them lay aside the professional atmosphere which often surrounds them to the hurt of their influence, and as a brother really yearning for the rescue of a lost brother, let them press home the divine message, gushing warm from the heart of brotherly love. Such preachers and such preaching would revive the old days of Apostolic power, and here, there and everywhere men of God would be seen turning the world upside down, and saving the lost multitudes.

Stick to Your Text

It is often remarked of a minister, usually in a disparaging way, that he does not stick to his text, meaning thereby that the preacher does not confine himself to the development of the thought that naturally drops out of the text which he has chosen for his discourse, but branches off to something that is foreign to the subject in hand. That the charge is often well founded is only too true, and the minister needs remember that it always leaves an unfavorable impression upon the hearer when he reads into his text what is plainly not in it. To the intelligent hearer it is an evidence of weakness, a lack of mental grasp. But it must be remembered that the minister is not the only person who needs to stick to his text. It is equally important, if not more so, that the laity should adhere as steadily and as tenaciously to the text as the preacher. The covenants they have taken in joining the church, the vows they have made in receiving Christian baptism, are not such that can be violated with impunity. If Christian people would stick a little closer to the text of right living during the six business days of the week when they are away from the sanctuary, the pastor no doubt would find inducement to stay a little closer by his on the Sabbath. There is the text of duty, do you stick to it? The text of obligation and personal responsibility both to God and man, are you quite sure that you have not drifted far away from it. Think a moment. What was your minister's text last Sabbath? Did it touch the duty of giving, or the importance of prayer or attending public worship? Was it concerning honesty or heart purity? Whatever it may have been, have you been sticking as closely to that text during the six days in the week as your pastor did on the Sabbath? Let the pew keep as close to the text during the week as the preacher does on the Sabbath and there will be a very perceptible improvement in the spiritual life and conduct of your congregation. Take God's word as your text and stick to it, lead a life of devotion to God and unswerving loyalty to your Master, and you will furnish your pastor a practical and impressive example of "stick to your text."